

**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

**NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CHARTER**

1. **Committee's Official Designation:** National Geospatial Advisory Committee (Committee).
2. **Authority:** The National Geospatial Advisory Committee is established under the authority of the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) and regulated by Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2. It has been determined that the Committee is in the public interest in connection with the duties of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC), which the Secretary chairs, and the requirements of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-16 Revised and Executive Order 12906.
3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities:** The Committee will provide advice and recommendations related to management of Federal and national geospatial programs, development of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), and implementation of OMB Circular A-16 Revised and Executive Order 12906. The Committee will review and comment upon geospatial policy and management issues and will provide a forum to convey views representative of non-Federal stakeholders in the geospatial community.
4. **Description of Duties:** The duties of the Committee are solely advisory and are stated in the Objectives and Scope above.
5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports:** The Committee provides counsel and advice to the Secretary through the Designated Federal Officer (DFO).
6. **Support:** Administrative support and funding for activities of the Committee will be provided by the U.S. Geological Survey.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years:** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Committee's activities are estimated to be \$400,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and 1.5 Federal staff years support.
8. **Designated Federal Official:** The DFO is the Executive Director, Federal Geographic Data Committee, who is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO will approve or call all Committee and subcommittee meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all Committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary.

9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings:** The Committee will meet approximately one to four times annually, and at such other times as designated by the DFO and/or Secretary.
10. **Duration:** Continuing.
11. **Termination:** The Committee will terminate 2 years from the date the Charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, it is renewed in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the FACA. The Committee will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.
12. **Membership and Designation:** The Committee will be composed of up to 30 representatives or special Government employees, who will be selected to generally achieve a balanced representation of the viewpoints of the various stakeholders involved in national geospatial activities and the development of the NSDI. Selection of Committee members will include consideration of geographic balance. The Committee membership will include from among, but not limited to, the following stakeholder groups involved in the geospatial community:
 - Federal Government
 - State government
 - County government
 - Regional government
 - City/Municipal government
 - Tribal government
 - Private sector
 - User industries
 - Professional associations
 - Non-profit organizations
 - Academia

The Secretary will appoint members to the Committee. Appointments will be for terms of 3 years. Committee members may not serve more than two consecutive terms. However, after a 2 year break in service, that member will again be eligible for appointment. Members serve at the discretion of the Secretary.

Any vacancies will be filled in the same manner in which initial appointments were made.

Members of the Committee will serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, non-Federal Committee and subcommittee members engaged in Committee, or subcommittee business, approved by the DFO, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service under Section 5703 of Title 5 of the United States Code.


The Secretary appoints the Chair and Vice-Chair.

13. **Ethics Responsibilities of Members:** No Committee or subcommittee member will participate in any specific party matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct financial interest.

The Department of the Interior will provide materials to members appointed as special Government employees explaining their ethical obligations. Consistent with the ethics requirements, members will endeavor to avoid any actions that would cause the public to question the integrity of the Committee's operations, activities, or advice. The provisions of this paragraph do not affect any other statutory or regulatory ethical obligations to which a member may be subject.

Members appointed as special Government employees are required to file a confidential financial disclosure form and complete ethics training on an annual basis.

14. **Subcommittees:** Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed for the purpose of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Committee for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. The Committee Chair, with the approval of the DFO, will appoint subcommittee members. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.
15. **Recordkeeping:** The records of the Committee, and formally and informally established subcommittees of the Committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Record Schedule 6.2, and other approved Agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.



Secretary of the Interior

JAN 19 2016

Date Signed

JAN 22 2016

Date Filed